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cents for each subsequent insertion.

Those who advertise in the year,

make contracts on liberal terms.

The privilege of Annual Adver-

sers is limited to their own imme-

iate business; and all advertise-

ments for the benefit of other per-

sons, as well as all legal advertise-

ments, and advertisements of real

estate, or auction sales, sent in by

them, must be paid for at the usual

rate.

Cards of seven columns, reli-

gious notices, &c, the like, one inser-

tion, 75 cents per square.

Birth, marriage and death an-

nouncements, and obituaries, in-

serted without charge; but all ad-

ditions to the ordinary announce-

ment, or obituary notices, will be

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being less than 25 cents.

No paper will be discontinued

until arrangements are paid, except

the option of the publisher.

Job Printing

In its various branches executed

with despatch.

F. A. PRATT, Editor & Proprietor

# Newport Mercury.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 12, 1758.

Volume 106.

## Poetry.

### Selected Tale.

For the Mercury.

SEA-SIDE THOUGHTS.

BY TOM-TIT.

Rambled away on a festival day  
From vanity, glaze and noise  
To calm my soul, where the wavelets roll  
In solitude's holy joys.

By the lonely cliff whence the sea-gull starts,  
Where the clustering sea-pinks blow.

II.

And the many flowers, on the purple quarry,  
Bends over the waves below,  
Where the camomile clings, and the samphire  
Swings,

And the lammasia trails,

And the sea-bird springs on his snowy wings.

III.

To blaud with the distant sail,

Leaned on a rock, and the cool waves there,  
Plashed on the shingles round,

And the breath of Nature lifted my hair—

Dear God! how the face of thy child is fair,

And a gush of memory—tears and prayer

My spirit in a moment drowned.

IV.

I bowed me to the rippling wave—

For a sail glided near—

And the spray it fell upon pibble and shell

Received it may be a tear.

V.

For well I remember the festal days

On the beautiful "Beach" I've roamed,

The friends I trusted, the dreams I dreamed,

Hopes high as the clouds above,

Perchance twas a dream of a land redeemed,

Perchance 'twas a dream of love.

VI.

When first I trod on this breezy soil,

To me it was lovely ground,

For genius and beauty, rays of God,

Like a swarm of stars above round.

VII.

Well, well, I have learned rude lessons since then,

In life's disenchanted hall;

I have scanned the motives and ways of men,

And skeleton grim through "all."

VIII.

Of the great heart-treasure of hope and trust,

I exulted to find mine own

Remain, in that down-trot temple's dust,

But faith is God alone.

IX.

I have seen too oft the domino torn

And the mask from the face of man,

To have sought but a smile of tranquil scorn

For all believed in then.

X.

The day is dark as the night with woes,

And my dreams are of battles lost,

Of eclipses, tempests, week and foar,

And of exiles tempest-lust.

XI.

No more! no more! on the dreary shore,

"I heard a Coonia sung."

With the early dead, is my only bed,

You shall not call me long.

XII.

False away to the home of clay,

With not one dream fulfilled,

My aching braw, in the dust I how,

My heart and harp are stilled.

XIII.

Oh! would I might rest when my soul departs,

Where the clustering sea-pinks blow,

And the lovely flowers, on the purple quarry,

Drop over the waves below.

XIV.

Where crystals gleam in the caves about

Like virtue in human souls,

And tho' the Victor Sea, with a thunder-shout,

Through the breach in the rock-wall rolls.

XV.

For the Mercury.

GOOD FRIDAY.

BY ELLEN.

Night came down Love's highest throne,

There was no light in all the earth,

Not even in the lover's eye,

Not even in the children's mirth,

So thick a night came down and crushed

All earth-light into gloom of gloom,

And gathered for one funeral wreath

All earthly beauty, love and bloom.

Was there no light? Love's throne rose up

With gleam and glow into the cloud,

Lighting the old world in its shroud;

No bale in all the eastern sea,

No continent in all the west,

But saw across the wondrous night,

The wondrous sign of love expressed.

No night comes now, however dark,

However desolate and lone,

For any human child of earth,

Since first o'er earth that love-light shone,

But into it, for those who watch,

Lighting wet eyes to Calvary,

That light shines out and makes the dark

Brighter than bright Eternity.

Even in the darkest night of all,

That ever touched mortal heart,

When sets the sun of earthly love,

And hope and bliss together part.

Even then, most then, our night grows day,

With gloaming of that love divine,

Until admiring soul forgoes

That aught besides could ever shine.

XVI.

ALL'S WELL.

BY R. M'EWEN KIRKALL.

The day is ended. Ere I sink to sleep,

My weary spirit seeks repose in Thine;

Father! forgive my trespasses, and keep

This little life of mine.

With loving kindness curtain Thou my bed,

And cool in rest my burning pilgrim feet;

By pardon be the pillow for my head—

So shall my sleep be sweet.

Peace with all the world, dear Lord, and Thee;

For fears my soul's unswerving faith can shake;

As well which ever side the grave for me,

The morning light may break!

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# The Newport Mercury.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 20, 1864.

Europe, as last noticed, was left in a critical and uncertain situation in regard to the question most likely to disturb the general peace in that quarter. The subsequent advice of last week left the question of the expected war against Denmark still perhaps undecided, as nothing was then known to have occurred denoting a change in the posture of the several antagonistic powers. Austria and Prussia appeared to have undertaken the *hegemony* in the field for the Germans, as those members of the Federation might well feel themselves entitled to do, because they have long been regarded as powers of the first class in the German interest. The smaller kingdoms holding only the second rank in the Federation were expected, it seems, to yield to Austria and Prussia the special honor of advancing upon Schleswig. But what is likely to render this Danish and German combination more uncertain in its result, is the great number of still smaller princes or petty states of the third rank that are to be taken into the account, though they are capable of doing but little else than rendering the German machine more complicated, and by that means at least, embarrassing important movements.

In looking upon the condition of the people under such a multitude of petty sovereigies, it may seem to be regretted that, amidst the wars and revolutions to which Germany has been subjected, the whole country has not yet been relieved of many of its burdensome principles. Such diminutive powers have singly no effective strength; they can give but little support in that manner, though they must frequently need to receive support while they remain in that condition. This circumstance renders the situation of all the petty German States one of great anxiety in times of general commotion, and exposes them to undergo the most distressing vicissitudes in endeavoring to preserve the integrity of a divided nationality. In this point of view, it might seem to be better for such a population to be taken under the protection of a generous conqueror, than to remain the humble and despised subjects of their present arbitrary rulers.

Conflicts in Europe are not always followed by the worst consequences of subjugation. Sometimes indeed the survivors of battles and sieges which have proved ineffectual for their defense or by which they have been reduced to submission, find themselves in no worse condition than that account, if not under alleviated circumstances. In such cases, however, the objects of the conquest have not been to destroy the lives of the peoples or to diminish their means of happiness, in any respect. When France lay at the mercy of the conquerors of NAPOLEON the Great, the vindication of the principle contended for in the restoration of the Bourbons, then the good conservative principle of Crowns, was deemed sufficient. The French population were not amerced to reimburse the nations for the expenses incurred in the various coalitions against the French Emperor as a rebel against their constitution. If the Allies did not enter Paris in triumph for the benefit, they did not use their power as they might have done for the injury of France. The nation was simply replaced within its ancient frontier—without acquisitions but without loss. And being no longer regarded as hostile, the same nation was allowed to be represented in an assembly of pacifiers on an equal footing, with those to whom as enemies it had just before been in hostile opposition.

The assembled wisdom of Europe, in 1810, did not assume to make an example of the French, either as inhabitants or as a nation. The soundness of such a policy was verified by the result, which lasted about as long as the principle of "legitimacy" on which it was founded, and it could not be expected to last much longer. The effect of an opposite policy could not have been better; and if there is anything to be learned from history it would probably have been worse. Nothing in such cases can be gained by outraging the instincts of human nature, and insulting as well as wounding the population upon which you must finally rely for complete success. The tumult of wars, insurrections and revolutions, have here and there for so many ages blackened the records of history, that something should be learned from such lessons. The saying that history repeats itself will be found to be true, all the way from the Greek to the American States. The words of the imperial historian of Athens may seem to be prophetic, because they are truly philosophical. He gives a narration "of things that have happened and," as he says, "of the same and very similar things which, as men are, shall hereafter come to pass."

WHILE every one perhaps is looking for later news in relation to the affairs of Europe, and to the sentiments entertained there in relation to the affairs of America, many may derive some satisfaction to learn that Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON has this week been lecturing in Boston upon his favorite subject, particularly as it is viewed by the working people and the masses of his countrymen. Mr. THOMPSON recently represented the "Tower Hamlets" in the British Parliament; but he is better known to Americans as a popular lecturer in this country, many years ago, when the subject, now shaking the whole country to the centre of its foundations, first began to be more generally agitated. His lecture a few evenings ago as published in the *Boston Journal*, gives information of the progress of his cause at home through the instrumentalities of two English organizations, called "Union and Emancipation Societies." He represented that the South had got the start at first by means of their emissaries. That there was still recently a lamentable degree of ignorance among the people of England respecting the frame of the American Government and the relations which the States bore to one another and to that Government. From the early movements and documents in relation to the rebellion, that the English people had come to the conclusion that the object of the war was not so much to destroy slavery as to restore the Federal Union. But that after the policy of the American Administration had become fixed in opposition to slavery, he could find more freedom to speak to Americans, and from that time it began to be easier to place matters in a right position before Englishmen in general. He said, however, that the question among them was only a prolongation of the old strife [more or less in the abstract perhaps] between those favorable to liberty and those classes which are more favorable to aristocracy and monarchy. Of the latter, are mentioned some members of Parliament who took an interest in the rebellion, particularly Lord CAMPFIELD, Mr. LINDSEY, Mr. GREGORY, and Mr. BERPERSDORFF. Of the former, are given the names of JOHN STUART MILLS, Professor NICHOL of the Glasgow University, Professor NEWMAN HALL, the Hon. JOHN NOEL, to whose genius and oratory in the halls of legislation the lecturer paid the highest compliments.

No questions have ever given rise to a greater difference of opinion among men, than those which relate to the culpability or responsibility of making war, and especially of bringing about all the evils of a civil war. In the latter case, the responsibility is of a nature which can never be shared by a few. And when a multitude engage in a conflict, individuals must be supposed to act in the enterprise more or less as they are swayed and governed by others and by circumstances. The whole body may or may not be controlled by a majority—the year and days of the multitude are never taken, or taken are not to be relied upon as accurately recorded. The law takes cognizance of the first overt act as the commencement of a rebellion, but that act must have had many antecedents of great account in the moral consideration of the subject. Every step taken in departing from the obligations of *good faith*, is a step taken toward an open renunciation of authority. But many such steps must be taken, and not by one or a few, before a general combination can be formed for proceeding to extremities. And if *good faith* is demanded on one side, *good faith* should be kept on the other. One side is not to be released from obligations, while the same are held to be still binding on the other. And here we find the source of such trouble so far as the master and not persons are concerned. But when a nation begins to be affected with the disease of moral obliquity and runs riot with passion, altogether or in factions, the period of disintegration and decay has manifestly commenced—Obedience on one side will be refused, because protection on the other is denied. A writer remarking upon the war of the Cavaliers and Roundheads under CHARLES I, of England, says in effect, the fault is not to be divided exclusively among those who fight, or among those who lead; not entirely among the apparent transgressors—but it should be charged in a measure to every one who, by folly, weakness, passion, prejudice or hatred, at any time lays the foundation for strife in after years. Yet who can separate the complex threads of the tangled skein of the past, and tell who most contrived to bring about that condition which all wise men most regret?

**Mrs. Edder**—A poor, hard working woman, whose husband is employed on the Government fortifications on Dutch Island, was found dead in her bed, on Barnstable's wharf, on last Wednesday evening, from the effects of cold. A jury was summoned, composed of the following: The City Sergeant, City Treasurer, ex-City Marshal, South-City Constable Carpenter, Chas. C. Heath, and Mr. Mayhew. They arrived at the conclusion that she came to her death from Exposure and Intemperance, although one of the witnesses were positive that she saw her in her room after returning home, as sober and proper as any other woman, but suffering from the effects of cold. It is rather singular that the four quarters of the city should be ransacked for "true and lawful men," to compose this jury, as two-thirds of them were city officials, including Mr. Stoute, who, by the by, is now honored as a State officer. Of course our worthy Clerk of the Supreme Court, Dr. Wood, who acted as Coroner, had not the pick of them. There were numbers on the same within a moment's call, who were eligible, both as Tax-payers and Voters, to act as juries, some of whom pay more taxes than all the jury together.

We shall look forward at the proper time for the evidence elicited, being heretofore under the impression that an inquest was an open, above-board proceeding; yet, in this case, the evidence by which a poor laboring woman's memory is endeavored to be stamped with infamy, is unaccountably withheld.

## TAX-PAYER.

We give place to the above communication without holding ourselves in any way accountable for the statements made, but from the information given us, we are led to suppose that the proceedings were very irregular.

**Major JOHN J. GOULD** arrived home Wednesday with about seventy-five veterans of the First R. I. Cavalry, who have re-enlisted. Although his ranks but Captain, we speak of him as Major GOULD, for he was appointed to that office some months since, and has been acting as such with the New Hampshire Battalion, although never having been mustered into the service as Major. We understand that it is the intention of His Excellency the Governor, to obtain permission to recruit the remaining Battalion, of the First Cavalry to a regiment, which is to be formed by outreaching the instincts of human nature, and insulating as well as wounding the population upon which you must finally rely for complete success.

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The new Enrollment Bill is not understood to be yet perfected by the requisite action of both houses of Congress. But it appears that the House of Representatives adopted the provision made by the Senate for the exemption from the draft of those who are religiously scrupulous about bearing arms, provided they belong to a denomination whose creed and rules of discipline prohibit their members from the performance of that duty. This was indeed an improvement of the Bill so far as to make it better, in this respect, than it was before it was amended so as to give it a personal bearing—but it still refers to the existence of denominations, which some may regard as unnecessary, and some, as even unconstitutional. Not that the distinction of any denomination is not well deserved—but simply because it is a distinction among denominations, not necessarily involving any personal difference—and masking the action of the government fall partly at least upon denominations and not solely upon persons in their civil capacity. The first amendment made to the Federal Constitution, and the first in the opinion of many in importance, prohibited Congress from making any "law respecting an establishment of religion" or to prevent the "free exercise" of the same by the people in any personal capacity. And the meaning of that article in our fundamental law may perhaps be correctly understood as prohibiting all legislation by Congress upon religious establishments—because as such they are expected to have nothing to do with ecclesiastical matters. Besides, if such legislation in this instance should be considered constitutional, it is evident that any jurisdiction of the kind would complicate and be likely to embarrass the execution of the law. The difficulties in that Department are stated to be sufficiently great, without encroaching those which already exist and are reasonably to be apprehended. Other States may not be in the same spirit as this, and the action of our government to enforce the set it necessary under all circumstances. That the result should be satisfactory, however, everywhere, something will depend upon the nature of the Bill—which ought to be just though no draft should again be resort to in this State.

The heirs of Mr. Samuel Westcott, dead, have sold the estate in May Street, consisting of a lot 70 feet square, and house, to Mr. John A. Peckham, Jr., for \$5,000.

The heirs of Mr. Frederick Winslow have sold a lot containing 8000 feet of land running from Pelham street to Greene street, with a house, to Mr. Anthony Stewart, Jr., for \$4,000.

Mr. Stephen Chase has sold his estate on Spring street to Miss Betsy Perry and Miss Ellen Price, for \$3,000. The lot is 80 by 50 feet.

The heirs of Thankful Burroughs have sold the estate corner of Division and Mary streets, to the Misses Easton's, for \$2,800. The lot contains 3,176 feet of land.

**Messrs. Thomas Coggeshall and William Brownson** have sold a lot of land 86 by 45 feet with stable, on Frank street, to Mr. William B. Fales, of Middletown, for \$2,400.

The heirs of Mr. Robert Seale, dead, have sold nine-tenths of a lot running from John to Levin street, to Messrs. John and William Spooner, for \$2,250.

Mr. Nicholas White has sold a lot on Tanne street, containing 12,310 feet, to Messrs. Chase and George A. Simmons, for \$800.

Mr. William Jouett has sold a lot corner of Third and Willow street 50 by 100 feet to Mrs. Catharine Hamilton, for \$800.

The Trustees of the "Blackstone School House Lot" have sold a lot containing 2,000 feet of land in the rear of Clarke street, to Mr. Philip Rider, for \$100.

The Committee on contributions out of the city to the Metropolitan Fair, which is to be held in New York next week, have put forth the following circular, and as the proceeds of the Fair are to be given for the benefit of soldiers without regard to which State they belong, many will no doubt take pleasure in contributing their mite.

—We would respectfully ask you to donate something to the Metropolitan Fair, which will go to the benefit of every one who, by folly, weakness, passion, prejudice or hatred, at any time lays the foundation for strife in after years.

Yet who can separate the complex threads of the tangled skein of the past, and tell who most contrived to bring about that condition which all wise men most regret?

**Mrs. Edder**—A poor, hard working woman, whose husband is employed on the Government fortifications on Dutch Island, was found dead in her bed, on Barnstable's wharf, on last Wednesday evening, from the effects of cold. A jury was summoned, composed of the following: The City Sergeant, City Treasurer, ex-City Marshal, South-City Constable Carpenter, Chas. C. Heath, and Mr. Mayhew. They arrived at the conclusion that she came to her death from Exposure and Intemperance, although one of the witnesses were positive that she saw her in her room after returning home, as sober and proper as any other woman, but suffering from the effects of cold. It is rather singular that the four quarters of the city should be ransacked for "true and lawful men," to compose this jury, as two-thirds of them were city officials, including Mr. Stoute, who, by the by, is now honored as a State officer. Of course our worthy Clerk of the Supreme Court, Dr. Wood, who acted as Coroner, had not the pick of them. Major, stating the article or articles shipped, how and when shipped, their value, and whom they are from. They should be marked "Metropolitan Fair," with all the proceeds of the Metropolitan Fair are to be given for the benefit of soldiers without regard to which State they belong.

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